

MINUTES  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting  
February 11, 2006

8:00 a.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 8:09 a.m., Saturday, February 11, 2006, in the Fallen Timber Room, Great Wolf Lodge, by Chairman Walter C. Zaremba.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zaremba, Sheila S. Noll, Kenneth L. Bowman, James S. Burgett, and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; J. Mark Carter, Assistant County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

**RETREAT SESSION**

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Mr. McReynolds reviewed the current Mission Statement, asking if the Board wished any changes, additions, or deletions.

At this time the Board reviewed each aspect of the Mission Statement, and no changes were made.

The Board then reviewed its current Goals, and no changes were made.

Meeting Recessed: At 9:38 a.m. Chairman Zaremba declared a short recess.

Meeting Reconvened: At 9:51 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Potential Areas of Emphasis

Mr. McReynolds provided the Board with the following list of potential areas of emphasis for 2006, stating he felt they were very congruent and supported the Board's mission, goals, and objectives. He stated the top two have been at the head of the Board's list for the tenure of this Board.

- Continued Customer Service Improvement
- Economic Development
- Route 17 Corridor Improvement
- Drainage Improvement
- Planning and Execution for 225<sup>th</sup> and 2007 Celebrations
- Zoning Ordinance Amendments to Implement Updated Comprehensive Plan
- Transportation Funding and Improvements

- Entryway and Corridor Improvement and Beautification
- Playing Field Development
- Yorktown & Tourism
- Utility Projects

Discussion ensued concerning the compilation of the list, and specified discussion took place concerning drainage improvements and transportation needs.

Mr. Shepperd suggested the Board meet in a future work session to prioritize the items. He requested, in order to understand each of the Board members' priorities, that each supervisor prioritize the list and give them to Mr. McReynolds for tallying. He stated they need to know where the Board members have common priorities and where they do not. He asked Mr. McReynolds to bring the results to the next work session.

Chairman Zaremba suggested there was a need to prioritize the list, but within each of the programs there was also a whole set of things that need prioritization.

#### UPDATE ON PLANS FOR CELEBRATION OF THE 225<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORY AT YORKTOWN

Mr. McReynolds indicated the Board members had been given a detailed draft schedule for the 225<sup>th</sup> celebration. He then provided a broad review of the planned events for the 4-day celebration.

Discussion ensued on possible sponsors for the celebration.

Mr. McReynolds stated that staff was moving to specific logistics planning and meeting on a regular basis so all know who is responsible for each aspect of the celebration.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### Route 17 Improvement Program Update

Mr. James Noel, Director of Economic Development, reviewed the status of the Route 17 Property Improvement Grant Program, providing the Board members with detailed information concerning the Route 17 grant applications that have been processed thus far. He noted that people are aware that most of the money is gone, and he feels there would be more interest if the Board were to provide more funding to extend the program and possibly expand the program to other areas of the County. He stated it has had a very positive impact on the businesses in the Route 17 corridor, and the goal of his department is to present the idea that businesses are valued in York County, and that the County wants to reinvest in its businesses and help them succeed.

Discussion followed on the program and the businesses that have taken advantage of it.

Mr. Shepperd questioned the amount of \$250,000, asking if it was enough, too much, or too little. He asked if it has been worth the effort for these businesses, and stated it was his sense that it was a good start. He stated he needed to understand if \$250,000 is the right amount.

Mr. Noel stated he did not have a specific dollar amount to suggest, but stated he thinks this program has been successful enough to warrant another investment of funding in this or other like programs.

Mrs. Noll asked how much of the \$2 million reserve could the Board afford to put into redevelopment of the Route 17 area and the upper county and still have a sufficient reserve.

Mr. Noel stated he felt a similar allocation of \$200,000 or \$250,000 would be adequate.

Mrs. Noll stated she agreed with the \$250,000, but she wanted the program tightened up. She stated she would rather see larger projects undertaken in order to see more results.

Mr. Burgett expressed his agreement with Mrs. Noll, stating he felt the grantee should start the improvement within 90 days or the grant goes away.

Chairman Zaremba also expressed his agreement with tightening up the program and a 90-day start time. He stated he felt most projects could be completed within six months. He indicated he felt it was time for a review of the parameters of the program. He suggested that perhaps some individual businesses were getting grants that did not need financial help.

Discussion followed regarding the individuals who have benefited from the grant program.

Mr. Burgett agreed that the Board needs to review the criteria of the program.

Mr. Noel noted the program was predicated on the impact that a project will have on the corridor. Staff did not screen for financial need, which is a very difficult process. He indicated it is difficult to put pressure on people to tell them they have a responsibility to invest in their business.

Further discussion took place concerning the worthiness of some aspects of some of the projects which received grants.

Mr. Bowman asked if the program was going to allow businesses that have already received grants to come back and receive others.

Mr. Noel stated the program could be made applicable only to new sites.

Mrs. Noll asked about the grant amount and should anything be added for inflation.

Mr. Burgett stated he felt the Board should keep the grant amount at \$20,000.

Mrs. Noll indicated she felt the Board should revisit this program annually in terms of the program parameters and the grant amount.

By consensus the Board agreed to allocate another \$250,000 for the Route 17 Revitalization Program.

Meeting Recessed: At 11:16 a.m. Chairman Zaremba declared a short recess.

Meeting Reconvened: At 11:26 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

#### Purchase of Land for Economic Development

Closed Meeting. At 11:27 a.m. Mr. Bowman moved that the Board convene in Closed Meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(3) of the Code of Virginia pertaining to the acquisition or disposition of property for public use.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea:	(5)	Noll, Bowman, Burgett, Shepperd, Zaremba
Nay:	(0)	

Meeting Reconvened. At 11:41 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Mr. Burgett moved the adoption of proposed Resolution SR-1 that reads:

A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREE-  
DOM OF INFORMATION ACT REGARDING MEETING IN CLOSED  
SESSION

WHEREAS, the York County Board of Supervisors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the York County Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this the 11th day of February, 2006, hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the York County Board of Supervisors.

On roll call the vote was:

Yea: (5) Bowman, Burgett, Shepperd, Noll, Zaremba  
Nay: (0)

CITIZENS SURVEY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Mr. McReynolds noted that the Board was provided with materials on the customer satisfaction and citizen surveys, and he reviewed the 2005 customer service initiatives as follows:

- Implemented department performance recognition meetings with County Administrator.
- Incorporated a customer service component in all training to link training to service improvement.
- Adopted "Putting Citizens First" as staff slogan.
- Modified employee orientation to emphasize customer service expectations and County values.
- V-Team is developing brochure to communicate values and customer service expectations.
- Continued customer service training (next session April 11).

Mr. McReynolds then reviewed the feedback from the 2005 customer service and citizen opinion surveys with the following statistics:

- Most surveys and comments positive
  - Overall survey rating 4.82 of possible 5
  - Focus groups well received
  - Negative feedback used to address areas needing attention—look for trend and specific skills to address
- Citizens Opinion Survey
  - Random sampling of county citizens

- Most all areas showed improvement from 2000 survey
- No areas showed significant decline

Mr. McReynolds indicated the Board members had been provided with a copy of the Consultant's report, and the consultant would be glad to come and brief the Board further if it wished.

By consensus the Board requested that staff schedule the consultant to attend a future meeting of the Board to brief it on the results of the surveys.

#### ZONING AND SPECIAL USE PERMITS

Mr. Carter gave a presentation on the zoning issues of tattoo parlors, pawn shops, short-term (payday) loan offices, self-storage warehouses (mini-warehouses), and a special use permit requirement for subdivisions, covering current code provisions, existing businesses, and options/alternatives.

Mr. Barnett spoke concerning the Board's authority to zone and prohibit uses. Localities can regulate tattoo parlors regarding sanitary conditions through unannounced inspections. If there is a use which the General Assembly regulates, then that regulation overrides the Board's general authority to prohibit certain uses; therefore, the Board cannot prohibit tattoo parlors. He indicated the same applies to pawn shops and payday loan businesses. He noted there is a bill currently in General Assembly to regulate the dispersal of these places of business which would allow the County to regulate their location.

Discussion followed on the location of tattoo parlors, pawn shops, and payday loan businesses in York County and their appropriateness in certain areas of the county.

Mr. Shepperd indicated this issue seems to be something that the market drives. He stated he did not have any problem with them, that they tend to be established where they are needed.

Mrs. Noll stated she has not heard any complaints about these kinds of businesses, and was in agreement with Mr. Shepperd as to it being a market driven issue.

Mr. Burgett stated he was interested in limiting the number of these businesses in York County.

Mr. Barnett reiterated that the Board has no right at this time to decide on the number and location of these types of businesses.

Mr. Shepperd noted that Mr. Burgett raised an issue that he agreed with regarding the Board saying how many of these businesses it wants in the County. The other issue is zoning and where the Board wants to put them. He stated he believes in controlling them, but he does not object to having them in General Business.

Discussion followed regarding the Board having a survey conducted to receive public input on the zoning issues being discussed.

By consensus the Board directed staff to develop a list of questions on the zoning issues of pawn shops, tattoo parlors, and payday loan businesses under discussion for a potential survey and provide to the Board for review. The Board also directed staff to get an estimate on the cost of the survey.

Mr. Burgett suggested that mini-warehouses be taken out of the General Business district.

Mr. Carter noted that at present the Board can allow them in General Business and Limited Industrial by special use permit, and in the General Industrial district as a matter of right.

Discussion followed on zoning designations for mini-storage facilities.

February 11, 2006

Mr. Carter noted that the "Coventry Corner" type of development might meet the concerns of the Board regarding mini-warehouses occupying viable general business development sites. He also noted that the County's parking standards are excessive, and he recommended that they be adjusted.

By consensus the Board agreed that a text amendment application should be prepared for consideration.

Meeting Recessed: At 12:28 p.m. Chairman Zaremba declared a short recess for lunch.

Meeting Reconvened: At 12:50 p.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

#### LIVING WAGE

Mr. McReynolds gave a briefing on the current starting rates of pay for County employees. He also reviewed the Federal poverty income guidelines. He stated in order to meet the Federal guidelines, the County would have to adjust the part-time starting hourly wage to \$6.50 and the full-time starting hourly wage to \$9.40.

Discussion followed on the impact to the budget if the increases were made.

Mr. McReynolds noted that only 18 full-time employees are making less than \$9.40 an hour. He indicated he did not recommend a wholesale shift of the four grades involved, but to move everyone to Grade 8 Step 2 and above that what the market will bear, if the Board agreed. He stated this way there would not be a ripple effect in the salary scales.

By consensus the Board agreed that the minimum part-time hourly wage should be raised to \$6.50 an hour and the full-time hourly beginning wage should be not less than \$9.40 per hour.

Meeting Adjourned. At 1:18 p.m. Chairman Zaremba declared the meeting adjourned sine die.

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James O. McReynolds, Clerk  
York County Board of Supervisors

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Walter C. Zaremba, Chairman  
York County Board of Supervisors